The Friends of Coventry Cathedral are to make a grant of £8,000 to sponsor the appointment of an English Intern in the Reconciliation Department for 2016/17. “The Friends are proud and delighted to be developing a partnership with the Cathedral’s Reconciliation Ministry,” said Andrew Paine, Chairman. “We have recently completed a two year £40,000 sponsorship of the Cathedral Choir and Music, which is at the heart of our worship. It now seems right that we should be providing funding for an English Intern in the Reconciliation Department. After all, reconciliation is the Cathedral’s core work and witness.”

Andrew Paine went on to say, “We hope that the English Intern will be able to keep the Friends briefed on the work of the Reconciliation Department and the Community of the Cross of Nails through personal contacts, presentations, and articles in the Friends communications. That will be a real bonus for us.”

In addition the Friends are to make a grant of £2,000 towards the Cathedral’s Choir and Music. The grant will be made from funds raised by Amici, the acclaimed chamber choir In addition the Friends are to make a grant of £2,000 towards the Cathedral’s Choir and Music. The grant will be made from funds raised by Amici, the acclaimed chamber choir Cross of Nails through personal contacts, presentations, and articles in the Friends communications. That will be a real bonus for us.”

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Dear Friends,

I’m just back from my first visit to General Synod – not as a member (ask Andrew Williams if you want to hear about the business conducted there from a member’s viewpoint) but as a Chaplain for the final circle of the Shared Conversations about Human Sexuality which have been taking place across the country for the past 18 months. Before the process started, the Church of England website proclaimed “The aim of the Shared Conversations is that the diversity of views within the church will be expressed honestly and heard respectfully, with the hope that, in so doing, individuals may come to discern that which is of Christ in those with whom they profoundly disagree.”

It seemed to me, as I sat in the chamber and listened to the final feedback from each group, that this hope had been triumphantly realised. There was so much grace around throughout the process – in stories shared in trusting vulnerability, in moments when that which unites shone through even profound divisions, in faith, hope and love. One young doctor, David, gave us permission to share his story of coming to terms with himself as a beloved child of God who happens to be gay. He spoke movingly of continuing love and support from friends as our model as we wait in anxiety or hope for the Church to decide what may happen next.

As we know at Coventry, the way of reconciliation involves honesty and courage in naming wounds, and generosity in acknowledging that every perspective is limited, even our own…

With love and blessings,

Kathryn

The Dean and Canons this week
Canon David is at St Paul’s, Stockingford this morning.
CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Readers
The Reader assisting at the Eucharist this morning is Donald Parr from St Lawrence, Ansley.

Holiday Cathedral Matters
During July CM will be published on Sundays 10th, 17th and 31st. Please send your items as usual to cathedral.matters@coventrycathedral.org.uk. Margaret Parker

Romania Sponsorship Update!
Since 1994 members of the Cathedral congregation have supported some of Europe’s poorest people who live in Sibiu, Transylvania. In the last six years you have sponsored newly-qualified graduate therapists at the end of their courses in Occupational Therapy and Speech & Language Therapy to work for the summer with severely disabled children at the “Speranta” Centre. This summer 18 volunteers have applied to help the project. Each pays £500 towards their own costs and the UK charity SHARE also contributes. The response to my appeal for £1200 sponsorship has been tremendous and there is only £290 left to raise. Are you able to help?
Please get in touch with me: Jane Williams, 63 Daventry Road, Coventry CV3 5DH. JaneMLWill@aol.com

Cathedral Prayer Circle
In an emergency, a group of us are ready to pray for you and those for whom you are concerned. Contact Meg Bowen on 01926 856928 – brief details would guide our prayers for God’s grace and healing.

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Summer Organ Recital:
Monday 18th July at 1pm
This week’s programme, given by Kristaian Seynhave, is of music by Cesar Franck. http://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/wpsite/blog/2016/04/11/monday-lunchtime-organ-recitals/

Cathedral Walkers
Wednesday 20th July at 10am
This month’s walk (weather permitting!) and lunch (always held whatever the weather) are on 20th July. Details are on the Community table; please let me know if you intend to come and what for (walk, lunch or both).
Dave Goodall 024 7646 1946
dagoodall@hotmail.co.uk

Coventry Recovery Community
International Memorial Event
Thursday 21st July 6-9pm
This is the first part of an overnight vigil and sleepover to commemorate members of our community who have died as a result of drug or alcohol use. Our aim is to raise awareness of Coventry’s homeless and rough-sleeping community, coordinating with local services and recovery communities from all over the UK, local commissioners, service staff, peer supporters and volunteers, community members and friends, families and affected others.

The Cathedral will be open to the public as well as to registered sleepers and invited guests, service providers and exhibitors. Service providers, charities and information points will be offering advice and guidance, as well as networking opportunities for partnership working and community building.
Everyone is welcome to show support for the local homeless and rough-sleeping community and to find out about ways to give or receive help and services which are offered.

Soup Volunteer for OPENTable
We are looking for volunteers to prepare a simple soup for OPENTable on 24th July. OPENTable is a radically inclusive supper church that gathers in the Nave once a month where all have a seat at the table. We seek to embody reconciliation through our practice of gathering around the table for food, fellowship, prayer, and conversation. We need soup for approximately 30 people. We welcome both individuals and teams of people to help prepare the soup. If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, please email haley.jones@coventrycathedral.org.uk.

*Welcome to Coventry* Bags for new Nursery families
Every week new families arrive at Circle of Friends day nursery in Longford – 83 so far this year - bringing current membership to 890 families.
As a welcome gift they like to give each new family a ‘Welcome to Coventry Bag’ containing essential items such as rice, pasta, tinned tomatoes, cereals, toilet rolls, toothpaste, toothbrushes, washing powder, washing-up liquid, soap, shampoo and some goodies.
If you can sponsor a bag for £15 please contact Sue Sampson on 02476 456 356 or smsampson@hotmail.com.